

**A RESOLUTION
BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

02- R-2118

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO PAY ALL OUTSTANDING INVOICES TO THE FIRM OF HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND COSTS INCURRED AS A RESULT OF REPRESENTATION TO THE CITY OF ATLANTA AS AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL IN CONNECTION WITH FEDERAL INVESTIGATORY MATTERS; TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF \$141,492.05 IN ATTORNEYS FEES AND \$43,232.60 IN COSTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$184,725.00; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Whereas, since 2000 there have been certain matters proceeding in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia; and

Whereas, these proceedings resulted in ongoing discussions between the City of Atlanta and the federal government related to the operations of municipal government; and

Whereas, those proceedings presented a myriad of complex legal issues that have never been handled in the City of Atlanta; and

Whereas, the previous City Attorney determined that particular expertise in such matters was required to protect the interests of the City of Atlanta and its employees; and

Whereas, the matters which became the subject of the ongoing federal investigation occurred in the general fund, water and sewer fund and aviation fund; and

Whereas, the previous City Attorney determined that the firm of Holland & Knight had the expertise and capability in such matters most useful to the City of Atlanta and therefore engaged the services of Holland & Knight, LLP; and

Whereas, the services of Holland & Knight were used to represent the City of Atlanta government and employees who were neither targets nor subjects of the ongoing federal investigation; and

Whereas, the total amount of invoices outstanding from 2001 is \$239,724.65, of which \$50,000.00 is authorized to be paid pursuant to Section 2-407 of the Code of Ordinances; and

Whereas, of the remaining \$189,724.65 balance, \$43,232.60 represents the expenses and costs associated with large-scale volumes and boxes of material produced to the United States government; and

Whereas, of the balance of attorneys fees, Holland & Knight has agreed to reduce their fee by \$5,000.00; and

Whereas, it is in the best interests of the City of Atlanta to satisfy its outstanding financial obligations to this firm which performed professional legal services for the benefit of City government during 2001.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to remit payment of all legal fees, expenses and costs due for legal services rendered by the law firm of Holland & Knight on behalf of the City of Atlanta and employees who were neither targets nor witnesses in connection with federal matters pending in 2001, in an amount not to exceed \$184,724.65, which represents \$43,232.60 in costs and \$141,492.05 in attorneys fees to be paid by a one-third allocation from Fund Account and Center Numbers 1AO1 529017 T31001, 2JO1 529017 T31001 and 2HO1 529017 T31001.

November 22, 2002 (11:03am)